

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WASHINGTON DC 20420

October 12, 2004

Mr. Carlos Mendoza Field Supervisor Houston Ecological Services Field Office 17629 El Camino Real, Suite 211 Houston, TX 77058-3051



Dear Mr. Mendoza:

The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) plans to acquire a 32-acre parcel of land adjacent to the southern boundary of the existing Houston National Cemetery. Cemetery staff will selectively remove overgrown vegetation to improve the appearance of the area, but will work to maintain the parcel as a wooded buffer shielding residential development to the south.

I have enclosed a topographic map of the site for your assessment of impacts on endangered and threatened species. If you have any questions contact me at (202) 565-4048 or via email at tracy.clarke@mail.va.gov. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tracy O. Clarke

Environmental Protection Specialist

NCA - Office of Construction Management

A review of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service files and your project information indicate that no federally listed or proposed threatened or endangered species are likely to occur at the project site. The project site is not located within officially designated critical habitat.

This review does not constitute our approval for wetlands, sensitive habitats, migratory birds or any other environmental requirements.

Approved

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Clear Lake Ecological Services Field Office U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 17629 El Camino Real, Suite 211 Houston, Texas 77058-3051